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# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

Case No.	24-10	0205
	Case No.	Case No. 24-10

Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, Vermont, Chapter 11

Debtor.

#### ORDER FOR APPEARANCE AT MEDIATION

- 1. Mediation in the above-entitled matter will be held on July 28, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. and July 29, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 7 West, Diana E. Murphy United States Courthouse, 300 South Fourth Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415, before Judge William J. Fisher. The parties shall appear and negotiate in good faith OR OTHER LOCATION AGREED UPON. Counsel and their clients must plan on being available the entire day of this mediation.
- 2. The following parties shall appear at the mediation: (1) Steven Kinsella and a representative from Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, Vermont; (2) Brittany Mitchell Michael for the Committee of Unsecured Creditors.
- 3. All party representatives shall be armed with full settlement authority and discretion. In all cases, the party representative should not be in-house counsel directing the litigation. This means that each party must attend through a person who has the power to change that party's settlement posture during the course of the mediation. If the party representative has a limit, or "cap" on his or her authority, this requirement is not satisfied. Similarly, if the party representative must contact another person for approval prior to agreeing to a

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**settlement, this requirement is not satisfied**. Any failure to comply with the spirit of this directive will constitute a violation of Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(f) (incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7016).

- 4. Each attorney shall submit to the undersigned on or before **July 21, 2025**, (as agreed) a confidential mediation statement setting forth at least: (1) a brief history of the parties' prior attempts to settle the case and their respective settlement positions; (2) a computation of the amount in dispute; (3) a reasoned analysis justifying their client's last stated settlement position, including their assessment of their best and worst alternatives to a negotiated agreement; (4) a description of any perceived hindrances or obstacles to productive settlement negotiations as well as any other information that may be helpful to the Court; and (5) the name and position of each person who will attend the mediation. The mediation statements are for the Court's use only and need not be served on opposing counsel and should not be filed or docketed. Counsel shall e-mail their confidential mediation statements to chambers at the following address: wjfchambers@mnb.uscourts.gov.
- 5. The mediation will be conducted in a confidential manner. I will not disclose any information learned by me at the mediation to the judge assigned to preside over this matter on its merits. I will maintain the full confidentiality of all information obtained in private, unless authorized by any party to make disclosure of the information to the other party.
- 6. The parties are advised that after receipt of the mediation statements the Court may, in its discretion, contact counsel for the parties jointly or *ex parte* solely for the purpose of assisting the Court's preparation for the mediation.
- 7. Mediation is a compromise negotiation for the purposes of the federal and state rules of evidence. It constitutes a privileged communication under state law. The entire mediation

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process is confidential. No stenographic, visual, or audio record will be made, except for the record of appearances made at the beginning of the mediation, and of any settlement that is placed on the record. All conduct, statements, promises, offers, views, and opinions, whether oral or written, made in the course of mediation by any party, their agents, employees, representatives, or other invitees, or by the mediator are confidential. All such shall be deemed to be privileged, in addition and where appropriate. Such content shall not be the subject of future discovery, and will not be admissible for any purpose, including impeachment, in any litigation or other proceeding involving the parties. They shall not be disclosed to anyone not an agent, employee, expert, witness, or representative of any of the parties. The only exception shall be that evidence otherwise discoverable or admissible is not excluded from future discovery or admission as a result of its use in the mediation. The undersigned shall not be called as a witness by any party in any matter related to this proceeding.

- 8. As mediator, I may evaluate legal or factual claims and speculate as to possible outcomes. However, the parties must understand and agree that I am not giving legal advice. The parties must only rely on the legal advice of their attorney.
- 9. Parties may seek a recording of any agreement that is placed on the record. The transcript will not be placed on the docket.
  - 10. The parties and their counsel are free to wear comfortable and casual clothing.
- 11. Failure of any party or counsel to comply with any part of this Order may result in the postponement of the mediation and/or imposition of an appropriate sanction on the party, company, or attorney who failed to comply.
- 12. The mediating judge is being appointed because of a judicial position as, and to act in the specific capacity as, a United States Bankruptcy Judge. By serving as a mediating judge,

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the mediating judge performs judicial duties. See, e.g., 28 U.S.C. § 651; Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(a)(5), (c)(2)(I); Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7016; Local Rule 9019-2; Code of Conduct for United States Judges, Canon 3(A)(4)(d). As such, the mediating judge and all persons assisting the mediating judge will have full, unqualified judicial immunity, as well as all other privileges, immunities, and protections of a United States Bankruptcy Judge and judiciary employees, regarding any matters arising from or related to the mediating judge's role as mediating judge.

## BY THE COURT:

s/ William J. Fisher

July 18, 2025

William J. Fisher United States Bankruptcy Judge Case 24-10205 Doc 401 Filed 07/20/25 Entered 07/21/25 00:37:45

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United States Bankruptcy Court District of Vermont

In re: Case No. 24-10205-hzc

Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, Ve Chapter 11

Debtor

CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE

District/off: 0210-2 User: admin Page 1 of 2
Date Rcvd: Jul 18, 2025 Form ID: pdf710 Total Noticed: 7

The following symbols are used throughout this certificate:

Symbol Definition

+ Addresses marked '+' were corrected by inserting the ZIP, adding the last four digits to complete the zip +4, or replacing an incorrect ZIP. USPS

regulations require that automation-compatible mail display the correct ZIP.

Notice by first class mail was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center on Jul 20, 2025:

TOTAL: 6

Notice by electronic transmission was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center.

Electronic transmission includes sending notices via email (Email/text and Email/PDF), and electronic data interchange (EDI). Electronic transmission is in Eastern Standard Time.

Standard Time.

Notice Type: Email Address
Email/Text: bankruptcy@td.com

Date/Time
Recipient Name and Address

Jul 18 2025 19:36:00 TD Bank, N.A., 70 Gray Road, Falmouth, ME

04105

TOTAL: 1

Recip ID

## BYPASSED RECIPIENTS

The following addresses were not sent this bankruptcy notice due to an undeliverable address, \*duplicate of an address listed above, \*P duplicate of a preferred address, or ## out of date forwarding orders with USPS.

Recip ID Bypass Reason Name and Address

sp Dinse P.C.

crcm Local Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecur, c/o Paul A. Levine, Esq., Lemery Greisler LLC

TOTAL: 2 Undeliverable, 0 Duplicate, 0 Out of date forwarding address

## NOTICE CERTIFICATION

I, Gustava Winters, declare under the penalty of perjury that I have sent the attached document to the above listed entities in the manner shown, and prepared the Certificate of Notice and that it is true and correct to the best of my information and belief.

Meeting of Creditor Notices only (Official Form 309): Pursuant to Fed .R. Bank. P.2002(a)(1), a notice containing the complete Social Security Number (SSN) of the debtor(s) was furnished to all parties listed. This official court copy contains the redacted SSN as required by the bankruptcy rules and the Judiciary's privacy policies.

Date: Jul 20, 2025 Signature: /s/Gustava Winters

## CM/ECF NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system on July 18, 2025 at the address(es) listed below:

Name Email Address

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District/off: 0210-2 User: admin Page 2 of 2

Date Rcvd: Jul 18, 2025 Form ID: pdf710 Total Noticed: 7

Alexander Jason LaRosa

on behalf of Creditor J. Hutchins Inc. ajlarosa@mskvt.com chorigan@mskvt.com

Andre Denis Bouffard

on behalf of Interested Party Vermont Catholic Community Foundation Inc. abouffard@drm.com, mbottino@drm.com

Antonin Robbason

on behalf of Creditor TD Bank N.A. aizr@rsclaw.com, ccs@rsclaw.com;lcw@rsclaw.com;sem@rsclaw.com

Brittany Mitchell Michael

on behalf of Creditor Committee Committee of Unsecured Creditors bmichael@pszjlaw.com

Celeste E. Laramie

on behalf of Creditor Survivor Creditors claramie@gravelshea.com

Elizabeth A. Glynn

on behalf of Creditor TD Bank N.A. eag@rsclaw.com, ccs@rsclaw.com

Harrison E. Strauss

on behalf of U.S. Trustee U S Trustee harrison.strauss@usdoj.gov

Jeremy R. Fischer

on behalf of Interested Party Rice Memorial High School jfischer@dwmlaw.com mveilleux@dwmlaw.com

Jim Baillie

on behalf of Debtor Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington Vermont jbaillie@fredlaw.com

Katherine Nixon

on behalf of Debtor Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington Vermont knixon@fredlaw.com,

sstallings@fredlaw.com;docketing@fredlaw.com

Lisa M Penpraze

on behalf of U.S. Trustee U S Trustee lisa.penpraze@usdoj.gov

Paul A Levine

on behalf of Creditor Committee Committee of Unsecured Creditors plevine@lemerygreisler.com phartl@lemerygreisler.com

Paul A Levine

on behalf of Creditor Committee Local Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors plevine@lemerygreisler.com

phartl@lemerygreisler.com

Raymond J Obuchowski

 $on\ behalf\ of\ Debtor\ Roman\ Catholic\ Diocese\ of\ Burlington\ \ Vermont\ ray @oeblaw.com, marie @oeblaw.com$ 

Robert S DiPalma

on behalf of Financial Advisor Berkeley Research Group LLC rdipalma@pfclaw.com

Samuel Andre

on behalf of Debtor Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington Vermont sandre@fredlaw.com,

docketing@fredlaw.com;mcalhoun@fredlaw.com;sstallings@fredlaw.com

Steven Robert Kinsella

on behalf of Debtor Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington Vermont skinsella@fredlaw.com,

sstallings@fredlaw.com;docketing@fredlaw.com

U S Trustee

ustpregion 02. vt. ecf@usdoj.gov

TOTAL: 18